

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are amended to merely clarify the recited subject matter. New claims 21-26 are added to more fully claim the disclosed invention; those claims are patentable over the cited prior art for reasons commensurate with the arguments included herein). All claims are in full conformance with 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph. Therefore, claims 4, 5, 14 and 15 are allowable.

Claims 1-3, 6-13 and 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kotzin (U.S. 5,455,962) in view of Satoshi (JP Pub. 1025697). Applicant traverses the rejection because the cited prior art fails to disclose, teach or suggest all the features recited in the rejected claims.

The Office Action admitted that Kotzin fails to teach selection from transmission directions, from which the signal that exceeded the threshold were received, a transmission direction or directions in which to continue transmission of the signal to the subscriber terminal. However, the Office Action referred to Satoshi, asserting that Satoshi remedied that deficiency. Specifically, the Office Action asserted that Satoshi teaches switching of a directional antenna for a mobile station's communication from one antenna to another to continue communication.

However, in Satoshi's radio system, as illustrated in Figures 1-3, the mobile station (31, 41, 51) is equipped with antenna selecting switches (312, 412, 512) with which a mobile station chooses one set of its own directional antennas for a communication link (paragraphs [0021], [0022], [0027]). Satori teaches that, when the quality of a signal received by one directional antenna of a mobile terminal is deteriorated, the mobile terminal changes to another directional antenna (paragraphs [0011], [0021], [0026]). Therefore, Satoshi merely teaches changing the antenna that a mobile station uses when received signal quality is deteriorated. Thus, Satoshi tries to prevent reuse of a directional antenna that received a bad quality signal.

To the contrary, in accordance with the claimed invention, a subscriber terminal transmits information to a base station about antennas which transmitted the signal that exceeded a quality threshold, or information on the transmission directions from which the signal that exceeded the threshold was received. Thus, the base station then selects from transmission directions from which the signal that exceeded the threshold was received, a transmission direction or directions, in which to continue transmission of the signal to a subscriber terminal or selects from the antennas, an antenna or antennas to continue

transmission of the signal to said subscriber terminal. Therefore, the claimed invention involves selecting from transmission directions or antennas from which the signal that exceeded a quality threshold was received, a transmission direction or directions or an antenna or antennas in which a base station continues transmission of the signal to a subscriber terminal. As a result, the claimed invention involves a base station continuing transmission of a signal to a direction or directions or with an antenna or antennas, which were found to give a good reception quality.

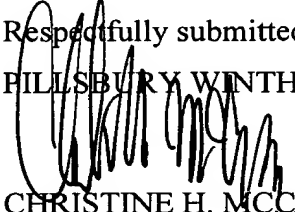
Accordingly, the combined teachings of Kotzin and Satoshi fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention. As a result, claims 1-26 are allowable.

All rejections having been addressed, Applicant requests issuance of a notice of allowance indicating the allowability of all pending claims. If anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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